IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 41 as follows:

1-40.   (Previously Canceled)

41.   (Currently Amended) An enhanced VSB transmitter for transmitting main data and supplemental data comprising:

a controller for determining multiplexing information based on amounts of the main data and the supplemental data and adding the determined multiplexing information to a reserved area of a field synchronizing signal;

a multiplexer for multiplexing the main data and the supplemental data according to the ~~determeined~~ determined multiplexing information; and

a data format converter for formatting the ~~second FEC processed data~~ multiplexed main and supplemental data for transmission and transmitting the formatted data to one or more VSB receivers.

42.   (Previously Added) The enhanced VSB transmitter of claim 41, wherein the determined multiplexing information comprises at least one of a multiplexing ratio and unit.

43.   (Previously Added) The enhanced VSB transmitter of claim 42, wherein the multiplexing ratio of the supplemental data to the main data in the multiplexer is one to one.

44.   (Previously Added) The enhanced VSB transmitter of claim 42, wherein the multiplexing ratio of the supplemental data and the main data in the multiplexer is one to three.

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45.   (Previously Added) The enhanced VSB transmitter of claim 41, wherein the multiplexer is responsive to a field synchronizing signal used for synchronizing a data frame of the data format converter.

46.   (Previously Added) An enhanced VSB transmitter for transmitting main data and supplemental data comprising:

a VSB pre-processor for processing the supplemental data for first forward error correction (FEC) and expanding the first FEC processed data by inserting a plurality of null bits into the first FEC processed data;

a controller for determining multiplexing information based on amounts of the main data and the expanded supplemental data and adding the determined multiplexing information to a reserved area of a field synchronizing signal;

a multiplexer for multiplexing the main data and the expanded supplemental data according to the determined multiplexing information;

a VSB main processor for processing the multiplexed data for second forward error correction (FEC); and

a data format converter for formatting the second FEC processed data for transmission and transmitting the formatted data to one or more VSB receivers.

47.   (Previously Added) The enhanced VSB transmitter of claim 46, wherein the determined multiplexing information comprises at least one of a multiplexing ratio and unit.

48.   (Previously Added) The enhanced VSB transmitter of claim 47, wherein the multiplexing ratio of the expanded supplemental data to the main data in the first multiplexer is one to one.

49.   (Previously Added) The enhanced VSB transmitter of claim 47, wherein the multiplexing ratio of the expanded supplemental data and the main data in the first multiplexer is one to three.

50.   (Previously Added) The enhanced VSB transmitter of claim 46, wherein the multiplexer is responsive to a field synchronizing signal used for synchronizing a data frame of the data format converter.

51.   (Previously Added) The enhanced VSB transmitter of claim 46, wherein the plurality of null bits are arranged at alternating positions within each supplemental data.

52.   (Previously Added) The enhanced VSB transmitter of claim 46, wherein the plurality of null bits are "0".

53.   (Previously Added) A method of multiplexing main data and supplemental data, the method comprising:

determining multiplexing information based on amounts of the main data and the supplemental data;

adding the determined multiplexing information to a reserved area of a field synchronizing signal; and

multiplexing the main data and the supplemental data according to the determined multiplexing information.

54.   (Previously Added) The method of claim 53, wherein the determined multiplexing information comprises at least one of a multiplexing ratio and unit.

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55.   (Previously Added) The method of claim 54, wherein the multiplexing ratio of the supplemental data segment to the main data segment is one to one.

56.   (Previously Added) The method of claim 54, wherein the multiplexing ratio of the supplemental data segment and the main data segment is one to three.

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